

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSION OF ELDER AFFAIRS
STATE OF IOWA
January 17, 2002**

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:

A teleconference business meeting of the Commission of Elder Affairs was held on January 17, 2002.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PARTICIPATING:

Chairperson Harold Davis, Craig Downing, J. Russell Lowe, Clemmie Hightower, Hazel Chuck, Dr. Jane Paulsen, Senator Joe Bolcom, Senator Sheldon Rittmer

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dr. Yogesh Shah, Representative David Johnson, Representative Todd Taylor

OTHERS:

Dr. Judith Conlin, Brenda VanderHijde, Greg Anliker, Joel Wulf, Mary Ann Young, Beth Bahnson, Barbara Morrison, Nancy Nichols

Chairperson Harold Davis called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. The Commission Secretary conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

I. MINUTES

**AGENDA
ITEM #1A**

MOTION: Commissioner Downing moved to accept the minutes of December 10, 2002. Commissioner Hightower seconded the motion.

VOTE: Chairperson Harold Davis, aye; Craig Downing, aye; J. Russell Lowe, aye; Clemmie Hightower, aye; Dr. Jane Paulsen, aye; Hazel Chuck, aye. Motion carried.

II. REPORTS

Director

**AGENDA
ITEM #2A**

Judy Conlin asked if there were any questions regarding the Director's report included in the Commissioners' packets. Commissioner Downing asked if the draft version of Iowa Code 235B was ready for distribution. Conlin replied it is not, but as soon as it is, it will be distributed to the Commissioners. Downing also asked for clarification pertaining to the revitalization of the dependent adult protective advisory council. Mary Ann Young explained IDEA has sent out letters to key agencies involved requesting a meeting to bring forth issues regarding dependent adult protection. In conclusion there was some discussion on the Commissioners

attendance at the Substitute Decision Making Event, January 28, 2002. Transportation was discussed as a service needed possibly through the Alzheimer's Grant. There were no other questions.

II. REPORTS Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging

**AGENDA
ITEM #2B**

Barbara Morrison reported the AAA's had a meeting with IDEA to examine and find solutions for both to become more efficient and effective. Morrison continued that I4A has two priority positions; first to maintain the SLT and second to spare state elderly services from any further cuts. Morrison asked for any personal stories or good media contact that anyone had to share to send a message of how valuable it is to have elderly services available.

III. OLD BUSINESS Iowa Code Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3A**

Mary Ann Young reported that the Department did submit a pre-filed bill related to technical corrections and other changes for Iowa Code 231 – Elder Iowan's Act. The Legislative Services Bureau is currently processing this bill and it will be forwarded to the Legislature for consideration. Also, the Department submitted amendments to Iowa Code section 135.C as it relates to the Resident Advocate Program. These changes were coordinated with the Department of Inspections and Appeals, since 135.C is their portion of the Iowa code. In conclusion, a draft version of the Iowa Code 235B has been written and will be circulated before being submitted to the legislature.

III. OLD BUSINESS Administrative Rules Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3B**

In June 2001 the Department filed proposed rules related to Chapter 26 – Elder Group Homes. The amended rules more clearly delineate the exceptions and appeals processes for elder group homes and update rules language to be consistent with Iowa Code, other Department rules and processes in accordance with Executive Order 11 and Iowa Code section 17A.9A. The amended rules became effective on October 10, 2001. Beth Bahnson reported on November 20, 2001 the Department filed proposed rules related to Chapter 27 – Assisted Living Programs. A public hearing was held on these rules on January 3, 2002. Upon review of written and oral comments received on these rules, the Department has decided to alter the language of the amendments as originally proposed. The Department is withdrawing the attached proposed rules and will re-notice proposed language by June 10, 2002. Greg Anliker stated in the future IDEA would present some information regarding the SLP rules. Administration on Aging (AoA) has some restrictions allowing AAA to use SLP dollars to use as matching federal funds because the dollars are considered as means tested. No rules were present to act upon that.

III. OLD BUSINESS Waiver Rules Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3AC**

On December 19, 2001 the Department filed proposed rules related to Chapter 1 to provide a uniform process for the granting of waivers and variances of rules adopted by the Department

in compliance with Executive Order Number 11 and Iowa Code Section 17A.9A. Also the Department filed proposed rules related to the redesign of the employment programs.

III. OLD BUSINESS Legislative Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3D**

Joel Wulf reported that along with the AAA, IDEA is also in favor of maintaining the current levels of funding from the SLT. Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) will be submitting a bill that changes the structure of the conversion grant part of the SLP. A proposal allowing the option to establish loans under the SLP that would be repaid allowing the conversion portion to continue in drawing back some of the dollars being reinvested. IFA has been working with IDEA and DHS for this proposal.

III. OLD BUSINESS Seamless Systems Project Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3E**

Conlin stated a copy of the proposal was sent to every Commissioner. The President has signed the proposal and at this time IDEA is waiting for more draw down information regarding the proposal. IDEA will continue to keep the Commissioners informed on the progress of the proposals.

III. OLD BUSINESS SLP Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3F**

Anliker reported on the handouts included in the Commission packets. Total year to date July 1, 2001 thru November 30, 2001 the total unduplicated clients across all services is 5,711. Senator Bolkcom asked what was the total for registered clients. Anliker replied 46,910.

III. OLD BUSINESS Elder Abuse Initiative Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3G**

Young reported the Elder Abuse Initiative continues to move forward. The contracts have been completed and signed. IDEA employees met with Senator Lundby and Senator Tinsman, the two projects and the Assistant Linn County Attorney, Jeff Clark, to discuss needs and barriers in the dependent/elder abuse system and aging network.

III. OLD BUSINESS Meeting needed in February

**AGENDA
ITEM #3H**

A meeting will need to be held in February concerning action on several items. The meeting was decided it would be at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 13, 2002. Along with a quarterly regular meeting in March.

IV. OTHER

Bahnson briefly touched upon the news articles in the DSM Register regarding the Assisted Living Program. The Commissioners received Internet links to the articles and will also be sent hard copies of the articles. Conlin will be submitting an op-ed piece responding to the article.

V. Adjournment:

AGENDA ITEM #5A

MOTION: Commissioner Chuck moved to adjourn. Commissioner Hightower seconded the motion.

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:50 P.M.

Chair

Date

Recording Secretary

/bv